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S E C R E T MANAMA 000530

SIPDIS

STATE FOR PM/RSAT, NEA/ARPI, NEA/RA

E.O. 12958: DECL: 04/09/2015

TAGS: MARR PREL BA

SUBJECT: BAHRAIN REACTION TO CENTCOM MASTER PLAN

REF: STATE 61450

Classified By: Ambassador William T. Monroe for reasons 1.4 (a), (b) and (d) $\,$

- 11. (S) Post has reviewed the CENTCOM Master Plan and does not anticipate that Bahrain will have any major problems with it. We have already discussed the major issues in the plan with the GoB due to previous requirements, and there are no changes in the current plan.
- 12. (S) Concerning the Forward Operating Site in Manama, Post, in coordination with DoD, has already secured approval for a long-term lease and military construction with the GoB. DoD required this host nation approval before the military construction funding was approved last year. Further, the entire funding amount comes from US sources and requires no payment from the GoB.
- 13. (S) The Cooperative Security Location (CSL) at Shaikh Isa Air Base again should raise no problems because there is no requirement for additional construction nor a plan to operate daily from the location. Also, there is an existing Implementing Agreement to the Defense Cooperation Agreement between the U.S. and Bahrain that allows DoD to deploy aircraft and personnel to the base. Thus, the GoB has already approved the use of the CSL for future contingencies.